

A NEW SPECIES OF *ELAPHOGLOSSUM* FROM INDIA¹

ANJALI BISWAS AND S. R. GHOSH²

(With five text-figures)

During the revisionary studies on the genus *Elaphoglossum* from India, we came across a few specimens, collected by Dr. King's collector and G. Mann from Jowai, Assam and noted as *Elaphoglossum conforme*. These after careful study turn out to be a new species of *Elaphoglossum*.

This new species differs from *Elaphoglossum conforme* Sw. in the following characters: (1) Rhizome short creeping with dark brown linear lanceolate scales, (2) Lamina base not decurrent on the stipe, (3) Stipe not filiform.

The new species comes nearer to *Elaphoglossum stelligerum* (Wall. ex Bak.) T. Moore ex Alston et Bonner but differs from it in the following characters. Presence of short armed stellate scale on the stipe which are adherent to the surface; base of the stipe black; Lamina oblong-lanceolate; apex of the lamina acuminate, base shortly cuneate, not decurrent on the stipe. Lower surface and midrib with minute dark brown long armed stellate scale which are closely adherent to the surface; upper surface with pale stellate scales with long arms and adherent to the surface.

***Elaphoglossum jowaiense* sp. nov.**

E. stelligerum (Wall. ex Bak.) T. Moore ex Alston et Bonner proxime affine, a quo differt squamis stellatis brevi-armatis in stipite, superficiei adhaerentibus, stipitis basi nigro, lamina oblongo-lanceolata, acuminata, basi

cuneata sed non decurrenti in stipite, infra contaque squamis stellatis minutis atrobrunneis longi-armatis superficiei adhaerentibus, supra squamis stellatis pallidis longi-armatis, superficiei adhaerentibus.

Rhizome breve, reptans, squamis profunde brunneis, linear-lanceolatis tecta, ad marginem integra. Frondes in seriebus duabus in rhizomate, stipes frondis sterilis 9-20 cm longus squamatus, squamis brunneis brevi-armatis stellatis, superficiei adhaerentibus, basi nigellis, stipes frondis fertilis longus, squamatus, squamis brevi-armatis stellatis, lamina brunnea, oblongo-lanceolata, 25-45 cm longa, 2.5-3 cm lata ad medium, apice acuminata, basi breviter cuneata, sed non decurrens in stipite tenuis sed firma, ad marginem tenuis sine margine cartilaginea. Venae distinctae infra. Costa valida, minus squamato, squamis minutis stellatis, breviarmatis, brunnieis, superficiei adhaerentibus, supra squamata, squamis stellatis longi-armatis pallidioribus et superficiei adhaerentibus. Lamina fertilis in longiore.

Holotypus lectus collector Kingii ad locum Jowai, Assam, mense Augusti anni 1892 et positus in CAL sub numero accessione 25226.

Paratypus lectus G. Mann ad locum Jowai-punji, Assam, et positus in CAL sub numero accessione 25248.

***Elaphoglossum jowaiense* sp. nov.**

Rhizome short creeping, covered with linear-lanceolate, deep brown scale with entire margin. Frond in two rows on the rhizome, stipe of sterile frond 9-20 cm long, brown blackish at base scaly with brown short armed stellate

¹ Accepted January 1982.

² Botanical Survey of India, P. O. Botanic Garden, Howrah-711 103.

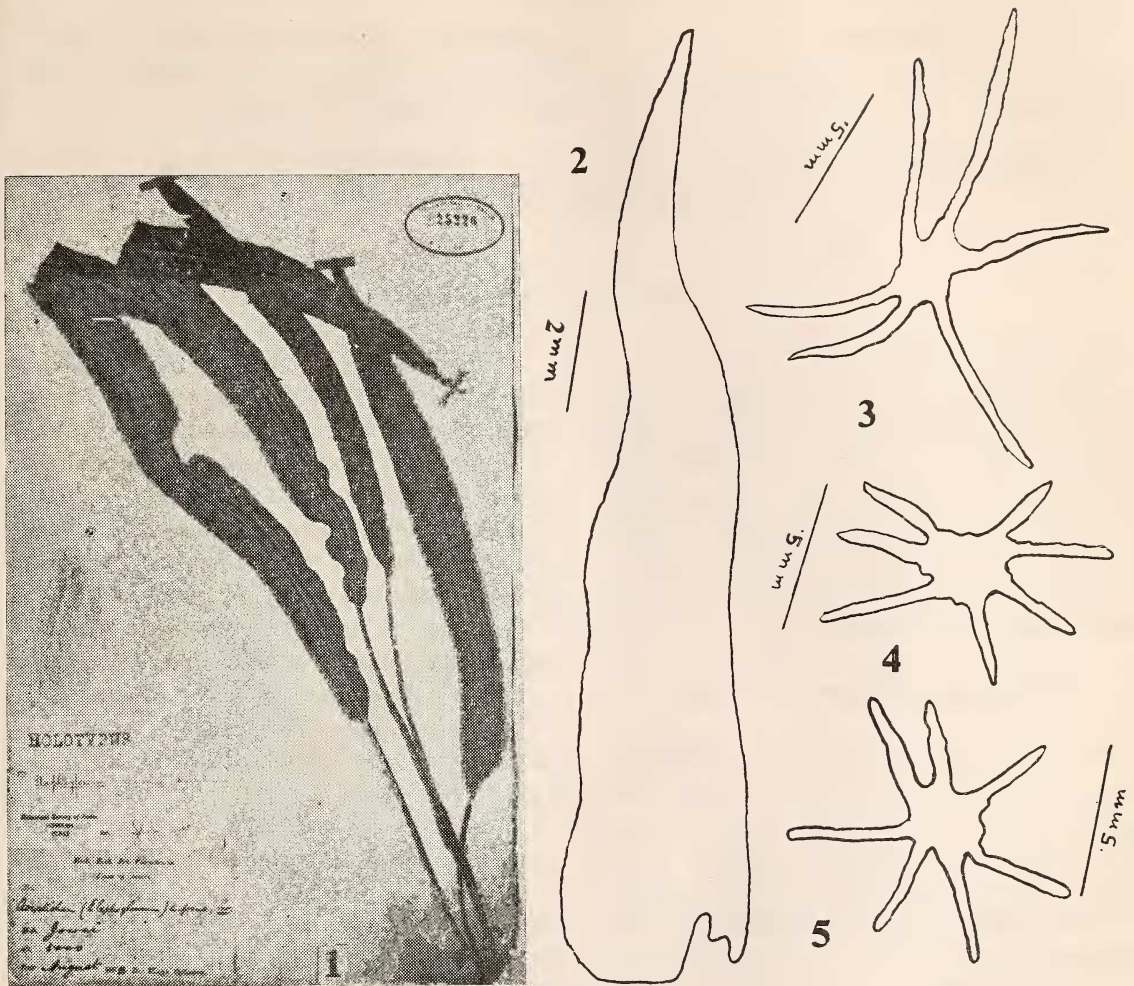


Fig. 1. Photograph of *Elaphoglossum jowaiense* sp. nov. Fig. 2. Rhizome scale. Fig. 3. Stellate scale from upper surface of lamina. Fig. 4. Stellate scale from lower surface of lamina. Fig. 5. Stellate scale from stipe.

scale which are adherent to surface, stipe of the fertile frond long, scaly with short armed stellate scales. Lamina brown coloured, oblong-lanceolate, 26-45 cm long, 2.5 to 3 cm broad at middle, apex acuminate, base shortly cuneate but not decurrent on the stipe, texture thin firm margin without cartilaginous border. Veins distinct on lower surface. Midrib stout, less scaly, scale minute, stellate with short arm,

brown closely adherent to the surface; upper surface scaly, scale stellate with long arm, paler, and adherent to the surface, Fertile lamina on longer stipe, 20-25 cm long 1.5 cm broad, linear.

Holotype: Jowai, 1500 m, Assam, Aug. 1892. Dr. King's collector s.n. (CAL-25226).

Paratype: Jowai Pungi, 1500 m, Assam, G. Mann s.n. (CAL 25248).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We express our gratitude to Dr. N.

C. Mazumdar, Systematic Botanist, Central National Herbarium, Sibpur, Howrah for the latin description of the species.

MICROSTEGIUM BORIANUM SP. NOV. — (POACEAE) — A NEW SPECIES FROM INDIA¹

P. R. SUR²

(With a text-figure)

Microstegium Nees was known to be represented in India by 6 species. One more new species has been found and named here *Microstegium borianum* sp. nov. from Meghalaya state, Khasia & Jaintia Hills, Lowlyngdoh. This new taxon is near to *M. petiolare* (Trin.) Bor but differs in less number of racemes (3-4), rudimentary pedicelled spikelet, lower floret empty, bifid palea of upper floret.

***Microstegium borianum* sp. nov.**

Culms 128 cm long, tall stout, simple, glabrous, pubescent at the nodes and below the panicles. Leaves 25 cm long and 1.5-2 mm wide, lanceolate, acuminate, tubercle based hairs in both surfaces, ligules linear oblong, 2-4.5 mm long; leaf sheath pubescent. Inflorescence of 3-4 racemes, forming panicle, 5-10 cm long, axis glabrous. Sessile spikelet prominent, 5.5-6 mm long, lanceolate, oblong, pedicel ciliate; lower involucral glume 5.5 mm long, lanceolate, dorsally channelled, chartaceous, tip 2-toothed, 9 nerved, keels ciliate. Upper involucral glume 5.5 mm long, lanceolate acute, chartaceous, keel scabrid, 5 nerved, a small awn at the tip. Lower floret empty, lemma 4.5 mm long, lanceolate, toothed, mid-

dle of the margins ciliate, 3-nerved, hyaline; palea 3.5-4 mm long, oblong, hyaline, apex obtuse. Upper floret hermaphrodite; lemma 3.5-4 mm long, ovate oblong, membranous, hyalines, divided into two lobes from the middle, lobes, acute, glabrous, 3-nerved, awned from the sinus, awn 9-10 mm long; palea 3.5 mm long, linear lanceolate, hyaline, bifid, glabrous; stamens 3, anthers 3 mm long, filament small; ovary small, style long, filiform, stigma 2, plumose. Pedicelled spikelet rudimentary.

Holotype: India, Meghalaya, Khasia & Jaintia Hills, Lowlyngdoh, 26.9.1937, G. K. Deka 15683 (CAL).

***Microstegium borianum* sp. nov.**

Differt a *M. petiolari* (Trin.) Bor racemorum numeris redactis (3-4), spicula majore, spicula pedicellata rudimentali, flosculo inferiore casso, flosculi superioris paleae apice bifido.

Culmi 128 cm longi, alti, validi, simpli, glabri, ad nodes infra paniculasque pilosi. Folia 25 cm longa, 1.5-2 mm lata, lanceolata, acuminata, utrinsecus pilosa, pilis basi tuberculatis, folii vagina pubescens. Racemi 3-4, paniculam formantes, 5-10 cm longi, axis glaber. Pedicellus ciliatus, spicula sessilis prominens, 5.5-6 mm longa, lanceolata, oblonga, gluma involucralis inferior 5.5 mm longa, lanceolata, dorsaliter canaliculata, chartacea, 9-nervis, apice

¹ Accepted April 1982.

² Botanical Survey of India, Industrial Section, Indian Museum, Calcutta - 700 016.